ABSTRACT

This invention provides methods of treating psoriasis which entail eliciting an immune response in an individual against an antigen aberrantly expressed in psoriatic tissue, such as a ganglioside, in an individual. The anti-ganglioside immune response is elicited by administration of an antigen such as a ganglioside, an anti-idiotype moiety for a ganglioside, or a polynucleotide encoding an anti-idiotype moiety. Also described is a strategy for developing additional compositions for psoriasis. The compositions elicit an immunological response against a target antigen present on psoriatic tissue, which in turn can be detected using antibody affinity-purified from the serum of the treated subject. The presence of the immunological response correlates positively with control or resolution of the psoriatic symptoms.